

MEMORIAL

OF CERTAIN

SURVIVING OFFICERS OF THE REVOLUTION,

Of a grade higher than that of Captain, praying that the clause in the late act, for the relief of certain surviving Officers and Soldiers, be so amended as to give them pay according to rank.

FEBRUARY 23, 1829.—Referred to the Committee on Pensions, and ordered to be printed.

To the Honorable the Senate, and the Honorable the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled;

The memorial and petition of the subscribers, in behalf of themselves and a few others, who were in the service in the line of the Continental Army at the time of its dissolution,

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

That finding, by having had recourse to the list now in the Treasury Department, that there are only six Colonels and four Lieutenant Colonels, of the surviving officers of the revolutionary army, now alive, that fall under the severe censure of Congress, as unworthy to receive their full monthly pay, which must be so considered by the limiting clause, fixing the highest monthly pay to that of a Captain, as is particularly expressed in the act for the relief of the surviving officers and soldiers of the revolutionary army, passed the 15th of May, in the year 1828.

And although we suppose that there was no design to stigmatize us, or to injure our feelings as men of the keenest sensibility, who had served in the army of the revolution, some of us from the beginning of the war to the end thereof, say eight years and some months; and that without any intermission, with the full approbation of all our superiors, and who esteem an unblemished character superior to pecuniary emolument; and as the sum saved during the remaining few years of our lives is so trifling as not to amount to twenty-three hundred dollars yearly, only while we all shall live, and who would now esteem it highly gratifying if Congress, in their wisdom, on reviewing the bearings of the above recited act, should make such amendments as to restore to us full confidence, that no kind of censure was intended to be attached to us, either collectively or individually, we then would be restored to our former standing, and be assured that posterity would not be able to cast reflections on our departed memories.

Permit us further to solicit the Honorable Congress, in their wisdom, to repeal that clause in the aforesaid act, which limits the highest monthly pay to the pay of a Captain, and to enact that all the surviving officers of the revolutionary army, who now are included in the aforesaid act, be entitled to receive their full monthly pay during their lives, from the 3d of March, in the year 1826; or to grant such other relief as they, in their wisdom, shall conceive to be just and proper; and your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Dated the 6th day of February, 1829.

PHILIP VAN CORTLANDT, of the New York line.
JAMES LIVINGSTON, do.
MARINUS WILLETT, do.
HENRY DEARBORN, of the New Hampshire line.
WILLIAM BARTON, of the Rhode Island line.
CALEB NORTH, of the Pennsylvania line.
SAMUEL WARD, of Rhode Island.
A. BUFORD, of Kentucky.